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BERLIN AGAIN CELEBRATING

FLAGS BEING DISPLAYED OVER GERMAN VICTORY IN EAST PRUSSIA

POLAND GIVEN INDEPENDENCE

Planned to Hold Convention Feb. 14 at Cracow, Galicia, to Choose a King.

(By Associated Press.)
PETROGRAD, via London, Feb. 12. (11:10 p. m.)—News has reached here from apparently authentic sources that Germany and Austria have declared the independence of Poland, to become operative February 14, when it is planned to hold a convention at Cracow, Galicia, to choose a king.
It is stated that Archduke Karl Stephen of Austria is a likely candidate for the throne.

Berlin Celebrating.
BERLIN, Feb. 12.—(via London, Feb. 12, 1:30 a. m.)—Flags are being displayed in the streets of Berlin in celebration of the report of Field Marshal von Hindenburg's new victory in East Prussia.

News that the Russians were being driven from the Masurian Lakes district surprised the people of Berlin, their attention having been long concentrated on the Warsaw front.

Persons in the confidence of high military officers know, however, that von Hindenburg had quietly gathered a strong force for an offensive in East Prussia. In unofficial quarters it has been said that eight army corps were gathered for this purpose.

Von Hindenburg's victory is reported to have been an important one. It is said the news was sent through the Russian line after an enveloping movement.

Victory was won under the eyes of Emperor William.

LONDON, Feb. 12.—All eyes are on East Prussia where the German army under personal observation, if not the command of Emperor William, has compelled the Russians to evacuate their positions east of the Masurian Lakes and retire to their own territory.

The Russians refer to this as a strategic retreat but the German official communication intimates that the appearance in this district of a strong new German force surprised the Russians and that the Germans captured 20,000 prisoners, 20 cannons and 30 machine guns in addition to a lot of war material. If the German statement is true, the Russian reverse apparently is almost as serious as that which the Muscovite forces suffered in the same place early in the war.

Before the German official communication was received in London military men looked for the retreat as a wise move, claiming that it would compel the Germans to fight the battle on Russian territory and away from their strategic railways. The army which the Germans flung so suddenly into East Prussia is believed to have numbered 200,000 men and to have been made up of soldiers who have been fighting on the Bzura and western fronts and of units of the new army trained in central Germany.

The Germans have resumed the offensive in Russian Poland on the right bank of the lower Vistula and have occupied the town of Sierpc, north-west of Plock. Thus the chief battle ground in the east has been transferred to the German side.

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Delivers American Note To German Government

(By Associated Press.)
BERLIN, Feb. 12.—James W. Gerard, the American ambassador, called on Gottlieb von Jagow, the German foreign secretary, at 6 o'clock this evening and presented to him the American government's note concerning the German sea war zone proclamation.

The delivery of the note was followed by a conference between Mr. Gerard and the foreign minister which lasted for three-quarters of an hour. Judging from the length of the ambassador's stay at the foreign office the communication evidently was considered of importance.

Nothing concerning the contents of the note has yet been given out by any competent authority here. Officials are not ready to comment on it beyond stating that the communication is "couched in the friendliest spirit and is a thoroughly friendly document."

INVESTIGATING RECORD OF JUDGE

COMMITTEE OPENS HEARING ON IMPEACHMENT CHARGES

AGAINST FEDERAL JUDGE DAYTON

Inquiry Into Methods of Selecting Juries and If Favors Were Shown.

(By Associated Press.)
PARKERSBURG, W. Va., Feb. 12.—A congressional subcommittee investigating impeachment charges against Federal Judge A. G. Dayton, of the northern districts of West Virginia, opened its hearing here today. Six witnesses were heard.

Miss Lillie Irene Jackson, daughter of Judge John J. Jackson, Judge Dayton's predecessor, testified she believed that Judge Dayton had something to do with her father's removal from office in 1905. She understood, she said, that former President Roosevelt had hired detectives to investigate her father's acts.

Mr. Roosevelt's name again was brought in when counsel for the petitioners asked Reese Blizard, United States district attorney under Judges Jackson and Dayton, if Hugh Bond, former general counsel for the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, had not conferred with President Roosevelt concerning the impeachment of Judge Jackson. Blizard denied knowledge of such a conference. The witness declared he felt President Roosevelt would appoint Judge Dayton because of their close acquaintance.

Hai Rapp, a United States deputy marshal, testified that in a damage case against the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad company, in which a verdict for a big amount was returned, Judge Dayton declared: "If taken 12 to decide this case," and added that unless \$2,000 were taken from the verdict he would set it aside.

All witnesses were questioned closely as to methods employed in selecting juries in Judge Dayton's court and whether interests of certain litigants were favored, but little was brought out.

The resolution authorizing the investigation directed that the committee inquire whether Judge Dayton conspired with certain corporations and individuals to secure removal of the late John J. Jackson as judge of the federal district court; whether he has shown marked favoritism to certain corporations having extensive litigation in his court, and has summoned as jurors persons connected with these corporations; whether he has used his power as judge to further the interests of his son, Arthur Dayton, an attorney; whether he had lent his services as judge to coal operators by improperly issuing injunctions; whether he has shown hatred and bitterness toward miners on trial in his court; whether he has used his office to discourage miners from exercising their rights to organize and peacefully assemble; whether he conspired with certain corporations in formation of a carbon trust in violation of the law; whether he openly stated he would not permit the United Workers of America to exist within the jurisdiction of his court; whether he has said in open court that the United Mine Workers were criminal conspirators; and, finally, whether he has been guilty of any act for which he should be impeached.

Suffrage in Vermont.
MONTPELIER, Vt., Feb. 12.—The Vermont senate today passed without debate a bill extending the franchise to women at town and city elections and for presidential elections.

The German reply to Washington will be made in due course and if the views repeatedly expressed in responsible quarters may be taken as a criterion it probably will point out that the German measures in making the seas around Great Britain a war zone is a fully justified answer to the British attempt to starve out the German nation, "women and children, as well as soldiers."

It also is believed that the note will suggest that if the United States desires a mitigation of Germany's naval campaign it would be well to induce Great Britain to lift her embargo on foodstuffs bound for Germany, which, in the German interpretation of international law, is entirely illegal and unjustified. It will be added, it is believed, that if Great Britain persists in her embargo the campaign against hostile merchantmen will go forward with full severity.

MUCH INTEREST OVER THE NOTES

MUCH SPECULATIONS AS TO REPLIES FROM ENGLAND AND GERMANY.

REPRESENTATIVES WERE SILENT

German Ambassador and British Embassy Decline to Discuss the Notes.

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—Reading of the official texts of the two notes from the United States to Germany and Great Britain developed today an intense interest among officials and diplomats in the question of what would be the nature of the replies from the two belligerent governments.

That Great Britain would give assurances of no intention to sanction the general use of neutral flags by British merchant ships was the belief of many officials. But the widest sort of speculation, based on a variety of conceptions of Germany's plans in waging a submarine war on merchant ships, was heard as to the probable response of the Berlin foreign office.

Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, declined to discuss the note to Germany as he had received no advice from Berlin concerning it. The British embassy also was silent.

What excited most attention in congress and among diplomats, however, was the serious tone of the notes even though qualified by the polite terms of diplomatic usage. The determination of the United States government to have the American flag used only by ships entitled to fly it and the warning that Germany would be held "to a strict accountability" if American lives or vessels were lost in the attacks on merchant vessels in the newly delimited sea zones of war, practically were the sole topics of discussion in executive and congressional quarters as well as among the ambassadors and ministers of belligerent and neutral nations.

While there were no authorized expressions, it was evident that the neutral diplomats in general gave both notes their approval because of the identity of interest of their governments and the United States in the circumstances of a powerful neutral government to the practices suggested by the Lusitania incident or the threatened attacks on merchant vessels was considered as likely to have a most beneficial effect and there were suggestions that the argument of the American government would be followed in a joint protest to both Germany and Great Britain by three Scandinavian countries, as well as several other neutral nations.

Discussing comments upon differences in the two notes, high officials of the government said the cases were not parallel as the United States had little ground in international law for protest against the occasional use of a neutral flag by a belligerent when escaping capture, and even the objections voiced against the general misuse of the neutral ensign could be raised only on general moral principles or on the ground of unneighborliness or serious inconvenience rather than on any definite rule of international law.

As for the communication to Germany, administration officials who helped prepare the document emphasized the point that the American government proceeded on the firm ground of international right as it has been a long established principle, they said, based on innumerable precedents, that a merchant vessel without means of protecting itself must be visited first by an enemy warship and given an opportunity to surrender or save its passengers before violence is applied. Again it was declared that the necessity for a strong warning was compelling, lest the sinking of an American vessel or loss of American lives give rise to a critical situation with alarming possibilities.

Interest in the situation was heightened by the addition of another diplomatic difficulty with Germany over the interference by German military authorities with mail communications of American Minister Henry von Dyller, The Hague and Luxembourg. A formal inquiry was sent to Berlin concerning the incident and officials hoped it would be satisfactory adjustment resulting on the uniform courtesy manifested by the German government in dealing with Minister Whitlock at Brussels and other American officials in the war zones.

Testing Licensure Advertising Law.
MONTGOMERY, Ala., Feb. 12.—A proceeding in chancery to test the constitutionality of a State law prohibiting liquor advertisements was filed today against The Montgomery Advertiser by Attorney General Martin.

The measure, passed Wednesday by the legislature over Governor Henderson's veto, became effective immediately.

Germans Sneaking Back After Planting Underground Bomb Near the French Trench



This photograph shows German soldiers sneaking back from a tunnel which led them near the French trenches. A more or more of them dug their way in the direction in which their guns pointed, just in front of the butt of the tree seen in the background, all the way, a quarter of a mile or more, to the French trenches and there planted bombs that could be touched off by electricity when the Frenchmen could be lured to the ground. The two men coming from the trenches were the leaders of twenty more, yet in the deep, dark hole. They had to sneak back very quietly, keeping out of sight so the enemy would not see them coming from the hole. Their guns were left in place that the French might think a man was behind each. In fact, this particular trench might have been taken while the Germans were digging underground, had the enemy not known it.

OTHER NATIONS WAIT UPON UNITED STATES

SAYS SEN. L'FOLLETTE SPEAKING IN SENATE ON RESOLUTION

CALL CONFERENCE NEUTRAL NATIONS

To Cooperate in Restoring Peace in Europe—Says President Should Be Given Authority.

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—"The balance of the world at peace waits upon this government," declared Senator LaFollette, speaking in the senate today on his resolution authorizing the president to call a conference of all neutral nations to cooperate in restoring peace in Europe.

"Neutral rights demand a clearer definition. Delay is filled with menace," he continued.

"Whatever may be the mind of the belligerents regarding a termination of the war today, no one can say what it may be tomorrow. Certain it is that they are not so entirely engrossed in the business of destroying one another as to be wholly indifferent to the good opinion of the balance of the world."

"Who can say at what moment the dark curtain that veils so much of the struggle may be swept aside by uncontrolled forces that will fasten upon the peaceful nations and draw the whole world into the vortex of war?" "Great Britain assumes the right to fly our flag in self protection. We are warned that Germany may not be able to determine whether our flag designates a neutral or an enemy. England from day to day enlarges her list of contraband and impose conditions and exactions which will paralyze neutral commerce. Germany declares 'war zones' to blockade English ports."

"It is revolting that we should encourage or permit traffic in arms and ammunition by private capital for profit with organized governments, thus prompting selfish interest to influence legislation. Back of every big army and navy appropriation bill is the organized power of private interest, pressing for larger appropriations, because there follows in the wake of such legislation fat army contracts, with attendant opportunity for graft and easy money."

"It were folly to pretend that the mere calling of the proposed conference will end hostilities. But it is little short of an international crime for congress to withhold from the president the authority and the necessary appropriation enabling him to act as the occasion shall command him."

M'LAURIN'S FRIEND ARE GIVEN SCARE

AMENDMENT OFFERED TO BILL INTRODUCED BY EVANS AND BANKS

THE CARLISLE BILL CONTINUED

Senator Walker Attacks Employers Liability Law—Other Doing in Legislature.

(By Associated Press.)

COLUMBIA, Feb. 12.—Friends of State Warehouse Commissioner John L. McLaughlin were given a scare in the senate this morning when an amendment devolving the duties of Commissioner of Agriculture E. J. Watson after next September was offered to the bill which was fathered by Senators Evans and Banks to enlarge the powers of the warehouse commissioner. The amendment which would have in effect repealed the bill which was offered by Senator Lee of Darlington. Senator Banks made an impassioned argument against the Lee amendment and praised the warehouse and its commissioner.

Debate on this bill was finally adjourned until Monday night at 3 o'clock on the request of Senator Walker who wanted to speak on it and who had to go home this afternoon.

The Carlisle bill permitting women the right to hold the offices of school trustees and notary public was continued until next session.

The bill providing for the appointment of the members of the State historical commission from the various schools and colleges was given third reading and ordered enrolled for ratification.

Senator Walker attacked the employers liability law, as introduced by Senator Padgett and offered an amendment in effect providing for the enactment of the federal liability law without the amendments included in the Padgett bill. No vote was reached on the bill.

The senate adjourned to meet again on Monday afternoon at 3 o'clock. The Torrens land registration system has advanced a step in this State. Today the house passed the bill providing for the introduction of a system along this line beginning in March, 1916. The vote was practically unanimous. Although many of the members were frank to say that they did not fully understand the details and scope of the legislation, by a vote of 98 to 6 the bill was ordered to a third reading, and will go to the senate with the approval of the house. The bill was vigorously pressed by its joint authors Messrs. Rogers, of Dillon.

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FIGHT ON SHIP BILL SHIFTS

ADMINISTRATION FORCES WORKING ON COMPROMISE HOUSE BILL

FEAR IT WILL NOT UNITE DEMOCRATS

Leaders Declare Administration Did Not Concede Enough to Secure Its Passage.

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—The ship purchase bill fight shifted today from the senate to the house. In the senate, the measure, blocked by Republican opposition, was displaced as unfinished business, and a cloture rule, designed to terminate forcibly the filibuster, was taken up.

Administration forces began work on a compromise house bill but house leaders were far from confident it would unite the divided senate Democrats or win Republican support. They declared the administration did not concede enough in the proposed compromise to secure its passage.

The cloture rule presented in the senate met the same Republican filibuster that had blocked the ship bill and a conference of senate Democrats was called for tomorrow to consider the advisability of continuing the fight for the cloture proposal, or of abandoning it and returning to a direct contest for the shipping bill.

The new bill in the house was developed after Postmaster General Burleson for the administration went to the capitol and definitely rejected the compromise measure advanced by Representative Kitchin. The Kitchin proposal contemplated making the ship bill a temporary emergency measure and would have taken the government out of the shipping business two years after the termination of the European war. Mr. Kitchin declared passage of this measure through both branches of congress was assured.

The administration counter-proposal as it was being framed tonight, would organize a shipping board with an appropriation of \$40,000,000 to engage in shipping for a period ending two years after the war's termination. Then the ships would be turned over to the secretary of the navy to be leased or operated in the merchant service in his discretion. This plan, to place the government permanently in the shipping business, was the point the administration insisted on. It is the provision, too, against which the senate Republicans filibuster chiefly is aimed. House leaders tonight said that provision would defeat the measure in the senate.

The administration proposal, which embraces the Weeks bill for the organization of a merchant marine, naval auxiliary, the Gore compromise shipping bill and amendments probably will be brought into the house next week. Passage of the Weeks bill with the administration amendments would place the compromise before the senate as a house amendment to a bill already passed.

Representative Kitchin said tonight that he had no hope of the administration compromise passing the senate. "It may have a moral effect upon the senate and the country," he added, "however, and may strengthen the administration support in the senate."

The Weeks bill would provide for the establishment of "United States naval mail lines between the United States and South America and between the United States and the countries of Europe." It would authorize the secretary of the navy to employ

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SENDS WARNING TO CARRANZA

U. S. POINTS OUT SERIOUSNESS OF INTERFERENCE WITH DIPLOMATS

TWO EXPELLED FROM MEXICO

Statement Given Out Supporting Chief's Act in Deporting Spanish Minister.

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—The United States today sent representations to General Carranza pointing out that serious complications might follow interference with the rights of the diplomatic corps in Mexico City.

It is understood no specific reference was made to the cases of the Belgian and Spanish ministers, both of whom have been expelled from Mexico by Carranza. The communication was of a general character covering the delicate situation of all the diplomats in the Mexican capital.

Late today the State department was informed by Consul Canada that Jose Caro, the Spanish minister, had reached Vera Cruz and had gone aboard a Spanish trans-Atlantic liner. Protection for him in his journey to Vera Cruz had been requested by the United States and he was not disturbed en route. The minister will sail for Havana.

While officials were reticent about the communication sent to Carranza, it was understood the Washington government pointed out that it would be to Carranza's interest to accord the diplomats facilities for communicating with their governments and all the usual courtesies of their positions. No indication was given as to what course the American government would pursue if this were not complied with but the implication that serious complications might ensue if foreign governments withdrew their diplomatic representatives was said to have been conveyed.

The Carranza agency here gave out the following statement today supporting the chief's act in deporting the Spanish minister:

"Deploable as the incident may be, it should be thoroughly understood that Mr. Carranza as first chief of the constitutional army and in charge of the executive power in Mexico, has not in any manner disregarded the customs of international law, nor shown a lack of consideration of the cordial friendship and respect he has for the government of His Majesty, Alfonso the 13th, and the people of Spain. He has acted merely in regard to an individual who has trampled upon the privilege of hospitality during very hazardous moments for the Mexican nation."

The agency cited precedents in which the American government dismissed ministers accredited here whose personal activities had been disapproved.

Demand Unemployment Insurance Law

NEW YORK, Feb. 12.—At a largely attended meeting of unemployed held under the auspices of the Socialist party in Union Square today, a resolution was passed demanding a national unemployment insurance law, the immediate beginning of all contemplated State and municipal and public works, the passage of a law prohibiting food exports and the creation of municipal shops. The meeting was orderly.

Spectacular Air Raid By British Naval Aircraft

(By Associated Press.)

LONDON, Feb. 12.—Aerial warfare was waged today on the largest scale in its history and under adverse circumstances from the standpoint of the weather. British airmen, buffeting snow and in the air, swept over cities of northern Belgium held by the Germans and dropped bombs on Ostend, Bruges and other places.

Thirty-four aeroplanes and sea-planes of the British navy took part in the operations and all returned to their base without casualties to their drivers, although two machines were damaged. The raid was made to prevent the development of submarine bases and establishments which might further endanger British warships and merchantmen.

Although no submarines were seen, the British admiralty statement indicates that the raid had sufficiently resulted, for considerable damage is said to have been done to German gun positions, railway lines and railway stations.

The Ostend station is reported to have been set on fire and that at

Blankenberghe to have been badly damaged. German mine sweeping vessels at Zeebrugge also came in for a hail of bombs but damage done to them has not been stated.

At various points the airmen were received by a German fire from anti-aerial guns and rifles.

A machine driven by Flight Commander Claude Grahame-White, among the most intrepid of the British flyers, fell into the sea while returning to its base after the raid and the aviator had a narrow escape from drowning. A cruiser picked him up and towed his aeroplane into port.

Claude Grahame-White is one of the best known aviators on account of his daring exploits and his success as a racer. He has made several trips to the United States, on one of which in the fall of 1910, he earned \$75,000 in prizes. He has been in several accidents but never was injured seriously. Last September he was appointed temporary flight commander in the British navy. His wife was Miss Dorothy Taylor, of New York.